SSM-544US

Appln. No.: 10/549,508 Amendment Dated December 3, 2008 Reply to Office Action of November 3, 2008

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No: 10/549,508 Christine Aldrian Applicant:

Filed: June 26, 2006 A CARTILAGE CELL CULTURE MEDIUM AND THE USE THEREOF Title:

TC/A.U.: 1651 Examiner: Taeyoon Kim Confirmation No.: 1345

Docket No.: SSM-544US

## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

This is in response to the Restriction Requirement stated in the Office Letter dated November 3, 2008.

The Examiner requires that claims of either Group I (claims 1-4 and 11-22, drawn to a cartilage cell culture medium); Group II (claims 23-27, drawn to a method of culturing cartilage cells using the culture medium); or Group III (claim 28, drawn to a cartilage cell suspension in the culture medium) be elected for prosecution. Applicant elects to prosecute the claims of Group I (claims 1-4 and 11-22). This election is made with traverse. Moreover, the applicant reserves the right of rejoinder of the non-elected claims.

Applicant also reserves the right to argue that the claims of the present application are patentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,617,159

Respectfully submitted,

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The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. 18-0350 of any fees associated with this communication.